

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A substantially pure polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 ~~or 6~~;
 - (b) a polypeptide that comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 ~~or 6~~ in which ~~one or more~~ ten or fewer amino acids are substituted, deleted, inserted, and/or added and that binds actin and induces cell proliferation in a manner ~~has a biological activity~~ equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 ~~or 6~~; and
 - (c) ~~a polypeptide encoded by a polynucleotide that hybridizes under stringent conditions to a polynucleotide consisting of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 5, wherein the polypeptide has a biological activity equivalent to a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NO: 4 or 6~~ a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-737 and 759-976 of SEQ ID NO: 4.
- 2-5. (Canceled).
6. (Previously presented) A method for producing the polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) culturing a host cell comprising:
 - (1) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide; or
 - (2) a vector comprising the polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide;
 - (b) allowing the host cell to express the polypeptide; and
 - (c) collecting the expressed polypeptide.

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PATENT

7-33. (Canceled).